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Introduction to UNECE Good Practice Recommendations on the Application of the Convention to Nuclear Energy-related Activities

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Points to discuss

- History of the GPR
- Preparation
- Structure
- Summary and Conclusions

History of the GPR

- MOP 5 (2011)
How the Convention should be applied to nuclear energy related activities?
- 3rd Working Group meeting (2013)
one-day workshop (led by Austria, Finland, Sweden)
- 6th MOP (2014)
Decisions VI/3 and VI/7 on the application of the Convention to nuclear-energy related activities
 - Requested the development of good practice recommendation → workplan 2014-2017
 - Based on existing good practice on the application of trb EIA in the nuclear energy field
- 7th MOP (2017)
 - Endorsed the GPR by having adopted Decision VII/6



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Preparation

- Prepared by external consultants (Environmental Agency Austria)
 - Supervised by editorial group and the Bureau
 - Austria, Belarus, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Ukraine, EC, European ECO Forum, with support of the Secretariat
- Recommendations incorporate information and responses to a dedicated survey
 - National EIA experts, focal points, nuclear experts
- Manuscript closed spring 2017
- Financial assistance by AT, DE, EU (EaP GREEN)

Structure of the GPR

Procedural steps under the Convention addressed

- Screening
- Notification
- EIA documentation
- Public participation
- Consultation
- Examination of information gathered & final decision
- Post-project analysis



Each section is divided in 4 parts

- Description of relevant provisions of the Convention
- Summary of approach (common and different views)
- Good practice examples
 - limited to 2 per each section
- Good practice recommendations

1. Screening

- Good practice examples
 - DE, SE (PoO; NPP decommissioning)
- Good Practice Recommendations (5)
 - Major change
 - Early information builds trust
 - Consideration of the risk of major accidents
 - Upgrade works during the life cycle
 - Exchange experiences

2. Notification

- Good practice examples
 - PL, AT (PoO, AP; NPP construction)
- Good Practice Recommendations (9)
 - Wide notification
 - Responsibilities associated with notification
 - Early notification
 - Reasonable time frame
 - Timely response
 - Information about the PoO permitting system and decision-making procedure
 - Availability of documents
 - Bilateral agreements
 - Point of contact

3. EIA documentation

- Good practice examples
 - FI, SK (PoO; NPP construction)
- Good Practice Recommendations (7)
 - Provision of preliminary information in scoping documents
 - Comprehensive non-technical summary
 - Translation of documentation
 - Details about the reactor type
 - Relevant information
 - Description of alternatives
 - Risk and accidents

4. Public participation

- Good practice examples
 - HU, BG (PoO; NPP construction)
- Good Practice Recommendations (6)
 - Early and timely public information
 - Public participation for APs
 - Public hearing for APs
 - Reasonable and equal time frames for the public
 - Open and transparent process
 - Direct feedback from the public

5. Consultation

- Good practice examples
 - SE, AT (PoO, AP; interim storage, NPP construction)
- Good Practice Recommendations (5)
 - Timely and transparent information
 - Openness for a serious dialogue
 - Thorough evaluation of all comments of AP prior to the consultation meetings
 - Long enough consultation period
 - Well-planned consultation meetings

6. Examination of information

- Good practice examples
 - AT, RO (AP, PoO; general)
- Good Practice Recommendations (5)
 - Defining the final decisions
 - Submitting the final decision
 - Addressing the point of contact
 - Information on the right to appeal
 - Feedback on comments by the public

7. Post-project analysis

- No good practice example listed
- Good Practice Recommendations (1)
 - Agreeing on monitoring and reporting mechanisms

Wrap-up

- Created with an aim
 - to facilitate the exchange of information;
 - to assist countries in a consistent practical application of the Convention;
 - to illustrate good practice and sharing experiences;
- 38 good practice recommendations are formulated on 23 pages



- Well-structured source
- Fills the gap
- „Bible” for those Parties, who have to carry out an EIA for any kind of nuclear energy related activities



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Thank you for your attention!

